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85-3023

SUBJECT: Talking Points for 6 August 1985 Meeting With
Robert Anderson, United States Ambassador to Santo
Domingo

1. Points the DCI Might Make:

--- Ambassador Robert Anderson could be complimented upon completing a three year tour in the Dominican Republic, a country which has had a long and close relationship with the U.S. It could be noted that he has done an excellent job in maintaining and solidifying these close relations, particularly during a period of serious economic problems which have heretofore often been used as a pretext by Dominican extremists to attack the U.S.

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--- He should be complimented on the excellent relationship he developed with President Salvador Jorge Blanco which, among other things, resulted in Jorge Blanco ensuring that his government would take a moderating position in the meetings of the Latin America Debtor Nations in Cartagena, Buenos Aires and Santo Domingo in 1984 and 1985.

2. Points the Ambassador Might Raise:

--- The Ambassador has advised [] that he has no particular points he wishes to raise with the DCI. []

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[] Additional background information on recent developments in the Dominican Republic is also attached for your information.

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BACKGROUND DATA

-- Political tensions are expected to increase in the months prior to the presidential elections in May 1986. The Ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) of President Salvador Jorge Blanco, will probably select its candidate from among Jorge, who may decide to run again; Senator Jacobo Majluta; and Jose Francisco Pena Gomex, the Major of Santo Domingo. Other contending political parties include the pro-Cuban Dominican Liberation Party (PLD) of Juan Bosch and the Social Christian Reformist Party (PRSC), led by Joaquin Balaguer.

-- The economy has been declining since the early 1980's. There were riots in April 1984 when the government announced cuts in subsidies on food and fuel. Although leftists continue to try to exploit economic difficulties, their recent protest attempts (the 20th Anniversary of the Dominican Civil War in April, the May Day Ceremony, and a proposed general strike on 20 June) have failed to generate public support.

-- Leftists from the Dominican Republic have been fighting in El Salvador and have received training in Vietnam, Cuba, Nicaragua and Libya. The training is designed to provide Dominican leftists with a chance to take advantage of public unrest should the economy continue to decline.

-- Morale within the armed forces has recently declined due to flagrant corruption, empty promises of salary increases, and Jorge's dismissal of several top ranking military officers who were replaced by people known to be personally loyal to Jorge. There is no indication, however, that these moves have generated any coup attempts.

-- Narcotics traffickers may increase their use of the country more as a transit point for shipments of narcotics and money laundering. Officials have sought advice from the United States and other interested countries in combatting the problem.

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Bio Data

SUBJECT : Ambasssador Robert Anderson

Ambassador Robert Anderson was confirmed as Ambassador to the Dominican Republic on 23 April 1982. He succeeded Ambassador Robert L.Yost .

Prior assignments included:

1946	Transport Officer, Shanghai
1947-1949	Political Officer, Nanking
1949-1950	Department of State
1950-1951	Principal Officer, Chiangmai
1951-1952	Political Officer, Bangkok
1953-1955	Political Officer, New Delhi
1955-1957	Department of State
1957-1959	Staff Assistant, Bureau of Public Affairs
1959-1961	Chief, Reports Section, Bordeaux
1961-1963	Special Assistant to Ambassador, Paris
1963-1965	Special Assistant to Deputy Secretary of State
1965-1968	Deputy and Country Director of France and Benelux
1968-1972	Counsellor for Political Affairs, Paris
1972-1974	Ambassador to Dahomey
1974-1976	Special Assistant to Secretary of State for Press Relations
1976-1978	Ambassador to Morocco
1978-1982	Special Assistant for International Affairs, CINCLANT

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

POPULATION: 6,428,000 (July 1984); 2.6 % growth/year
73% mulatto
35% literacy

GNP: \$7.6 billion (1981)
\$1400/per capita
Real Growth 1982 3.4%

CROPS: Sugar cane
Coffee
Sugar
Tobacco
Rice

INDUSTRIES: Sugar processing
Nickel mining
Bauxite mining
Textiles
Peanut processing

CURRENT POLITICAL FACTORS:

1. Dominican Liberation Party (PLD)
pro-Cuban leftist activities.
2. Dominican Communist Party and other
radical leftist parties activities
3. Rift within President Jorge Blanco's
ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD)
4. Preparations for May 1986 Elections

ECONOMIC FACTORS:

1. Austerity measures to comply with
IMF requirements
2. Wage, tax, price squeeze on middle class
3. Severe unemployment

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